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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.
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09/587.939 06/06/00 PHOMMACHANH

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MERCHANT & GOULD

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MINNEAPOLIS MN 55402-0903

EXAMINER

TA, T

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2833

DATE MAILED:

12/26/00

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

**Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks**

**Office Action Summary**

Application No.

09/587,939

Applicant(s)

PHOMMACHANH, CHANSY

Examiner

Tho D. Ta

Art Unit

2833

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 06 June 2000 and 08/21/00.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 15-21 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 15-21 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to by the Examiner.
- 11) ☒ The proposed drawing correction filed on 8/14/00 is: a) ☒ approved b) ☐ disapproved.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
- \* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. & 119(e).

**Attachment(s)**

- 15) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) ✓
- 16) ☒ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 17) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- 18) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 19) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 20) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### DETAILED ACTION

1. This application is a continuation of Application/Control Number 09/378,105, filed on 08/20/99, now U.S. Patent 6,089,923.

Applicant's cancellation of claims 1-14 is acknowledged.

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

3. Claims 15-21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Rhee (6,023,200).

In regard to claim 15-17, Rhee discloses a connector arrangement for compensating cross-talk, comprising: a circuit board P with front and rear terminals (see attached drawing); a plurality of pairs of conductors 11-18, 11'-18' disposed on the circuit board P, the pairs of conductors connecting to respective front and rear terminals, each pair of conductors including a ring and a tip conductor, and the ring and tip conductors being substantially disposed parallel; a forward-compensating capacitance (fig. 1) for compensating unbalance capacitance, proximate the front terminals; and a reverse-compensating capacitance (fig. 2) for compensating unbalance capacitance and inductance caused by the forward-compensating capacitance, proximate the rear terminals. Although Rhee does not specifically disclosed the claimed

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ring and tip conductors, this feature is seen to be an inherent teaching of that device since a communication apparatus is disclosed in the spec. and circuit board P arrangement of the front and rear terminals are similar to the claimed invention and thus, it is apparent that some type of ring and tip conductors must be present for the communication to function as intended. The meaning of "compensating unbalance capacitance and inductance" is not set forth in the claims and is thus deemed to be so broad that it is met by the applied reference.

In regard to claim 18, Rhee discloses that the forward-compensating capacitance is formed by using additional parallel conductors on the circuit board P, and the reverse-compensating capacitance is formed by using additional parallel conductors on the circuit board P.

In regard to claim 21, Rhee does not disclose a housing holding the circuit board P, and the housing defining a plug port for receipt of a plug of a telecommunication. Although Rhee does not specifically disclosed the claimed housing, this feature is seen to be an inherent teaching of that device since a communication apparatus is disclosed in the spec. and circuit board P arrangement of the front and rear terminals are similar to the claimed invention and thus, it is apparent that some type of housing defining a plug port must be present for the communication to function as intended.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 19 and 20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Rhee in view of Goodrich et al. (6,116,964).

Rhee is silent about the type of the front and rear terminals.

Goodrich et al. discloses that the front terminals include contact spring 18 and the rear terminals include IDC contacts 56. These types are old and well known in the art.

Therefore, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify Rhee invention by using the IDC contacts as disclosed by Goodrich et al. so that the insulation of the wires do not have to be cut before termination; and by using the spring contact as disclosed by Goodrich et al. in order to provide a better connection with the mating plug.

***Conclusion***

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tho D. Ta whose telephone number is (703) 308-0800. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8:00-5:30).

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Paula A. Bradley can be reached on (703) 308-2319. The fax phone numbers for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned are (703) 308-7722 for regular communications and (703) 308-7724 for After Final communications.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-1782.



**THO D. TA**  
**PATENT EXAMINER**

tdt  
December 20, 2000